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ESTABLISHED 1836

BLOWN UP BY FLOATING MINE

British Passenger Liner Lost In The English Channel

Two Other Smaller Vessels Also Victims Of The Mines

London, Feb. 28.—The palatial passenger liner *Maloja* of the Peninsular and Oriental line was struck by a floating mine Sunday forenoon when midway between Dover and Folkestone, and sank within thirty minutes after her afterpart had been blown up in a terrific explosion. There were 119 passengers and a crew of about 300 on board. Almost all of the passengers were reported saved.

At a late hour it was estimated that 147 persons were drowned or killed as a result of the accident, 117 of whom were seamen.

No Americans are believed to have been aboard. The mine which caused the *Maloja's* destruction is believed to have been one of the large nets spread by the British navy for the protection of England's coast against German naval raiders.

While helping in the rescue work the British steamship *Empress of Port William*, of 1,353 tons gross, herself struck a mine within half a mile of the sinking *Maloja* and immediately began to settle her stern and forepart. She kept above the water long enough to enable the crew to take to the boats, then suddenly exploded and disappeared in a cloud of steam.

A third victim of a mine was the Dutch mail boat *Mecklenburg*. Passengers and crew were saved by two Dutch steamships. In consequence of the *Mecklenburg's* sinking the service between Holland and England was stopped.

The *Maloja*, one of the most stately liners in the British passenger service, was bound from London to Bombay. She was the sister ship of the *Persia*, which was sunk—on a third far unknown cause—off the island of Crete on Dec. 30, with the loss of 336 persons out of 450 on board. Among those lost with the *Persia* was the American consul to Aden, Robert N. McNeely.

Second Steamer Explodes.
A large number of mail sacks were lost with the *Maloja*. The rescue of the majority of the passengers is ascribed by the Peninsular and Oriental line to the fact that only Saturday evening the *Maloja's* captain had instructed the passengers in the use of life belts. The behavior of both passengers and crew is characterized in an official statement of the line as "splendid."

The explosion which followed the *Maloja's* collision with the mine was the sign for innumerable large and small craft to hurry to her assistance. Within a few minutes the sinking vessel was surrounded by a swarm of steamships, trawlers, tugs, lighters, boats, and even small warships.

TEACHERS NOT LIKELY TO ORGANIZE UNION

New York, Feb. 28.—Present indications point to a cool reception on the part of the teachers of New York city of the proposition to organize them into a labor union affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. Only one of the fifty odd associations of teachers and principals has taken up the proposal at all, the Teachers' League, and most of the other associations connected with the public schools system are too deeply interested in pending and proposed legislation affecting their welfare to precipitate a discussion of a union among

There was a stormy sea, however, and the rescue work was made under difficult circumstances. These were rendered still worse by the sudden explosion on the *Empress of Port William*, which divided the rescue vessels and added greatly to the dramatic element of the situation. A remarkable feature is the assertion that there was no panic. The simultaneous sinking of the two vessels, both destroyed by a mine, with hundreds of men and women in the water struggling for their lives, offered one of the most spectacular scenes ever witnessed off Dover.

The Peninsular and Oriental line statement, after telling of the cause, time and scene of the disaster, said: "The after part of the ship was blown up. There was a high sea and the captain seeing that extensive damage had been done tried to beach the liner, but was unsuccessful in this, the engine room being full of water. The vessel sank in about half an hour. The survivors were landed at Dover. The *Maloja* sank about two miles off shore. The explosion was heard and seen at Dover and tugs and motor boats raced promptly to her aid. Patrol boats also responded speedily to the *Maloja's* distress calls.

BY TEUTONIC SONS
Wilson, Roosevelt and Root Are Sharply Assailed.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—Calling upon all typhoided citizens to ignore the campaign pretensions of either the "oldest Roosevelt or his benchmark, Root," the Teutonic Sons of America in a meeting here passed resolutions of rebuke to President Wilson, accusing him of hypocrisy in his attitude toward the Mexican and German situations. The resolutions say in part: "That the Teutonic element of America be advised of President Wilson's probable administration performance regarding Mexico and the Lusitania, with its forced conclusion that he has proved his utter unfitness to be longer entrusted with the maintenance of American honesty, honor and integrity."

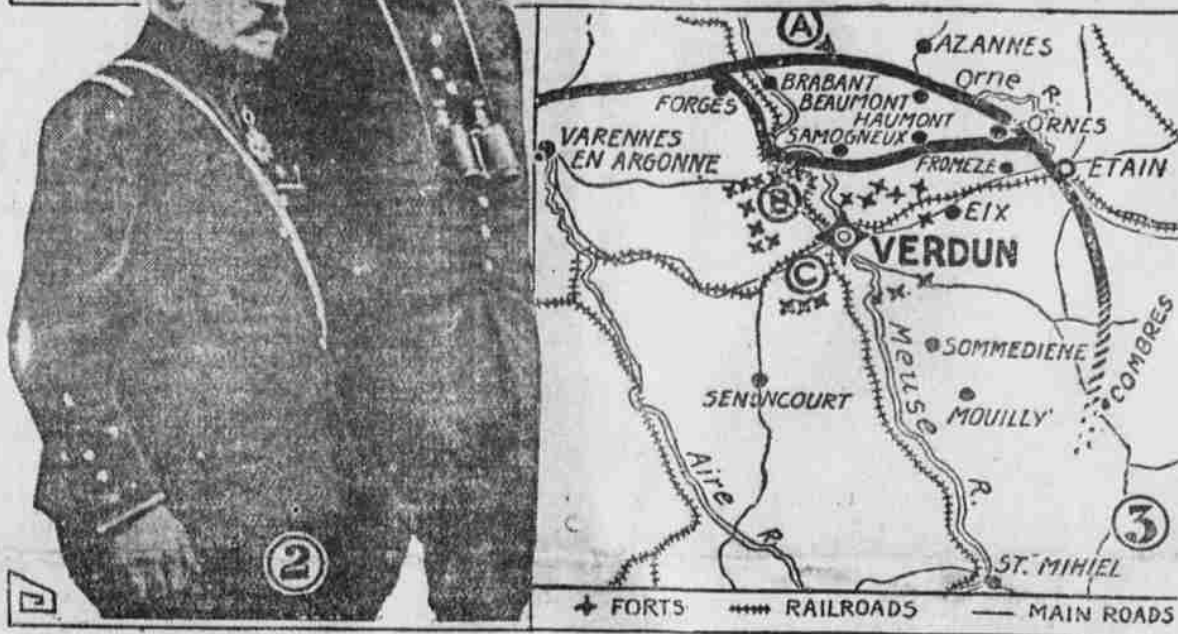
Missionaries Detained.
Columbus, Feb. 28.—Word has just been received here from the American consul at Colombo that Rev. William F. Schmidt and Rev. Jesse P. Pfeuffer, missionaries of the Lutheran joint synod of Ohio, who left Columbus last December for Puttur, India, have arrived at Ceylon and have been refused admittance to their mission field. They are now at Colombo awaiting further instructions. The grounds for refusal are not known here. An appeal will be made to Washington.

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TERRIFIC ONSLAUGHTS BY GERMANS DENT FRENCH LINES DEFENDING VERDUN FORTRESS



Bending back the French line in several places was the effect of the terrific German onslaught for Verdun, although the French asserted that no important gain was made, and they retired from their first line trenches in good order. They also said the German gains were made at the cost of fearful and reckless expenditure of lives. The map (No. 3) shows where the army of the German crown prince bent the French line. A—Battle line

In the region of Verdun before the German army, estimated at 300,000 men, began its great drive for the citadel. B—Present front, showing the changes made by the capture of the villages of Brabant, Haumont, Samogneux and Ornes, taking the Germans to within a few miles of the outer forts of Verdun. The entire wooded district northeast of Beaumont and the forest of Herbe is held by the Germans. C—Verdun; object

ive of the crown prince in a move said by military critics to mark a new attempt to reach Paris, 110 miles away. Picture No. 1 shows Kaiser and crown prince (in center) at the prince's headquarters; No. 2 in General Castelnau (at left) and General Joffre, French commander in chief, in consultation. General Castelnau is in immediate command of the troops defending Verdun.

YOUNG BRIDE CONFESSES KILLED HOTELKEEPER

Port Worth, Tex., Feb. 28.—Mrs. Katherine Vance Harrison, fifteen, bride of Charles Harrison, nephew of United States Senator Charles Culberson of Texas, was released with her husband after they had given \$2,500 bail each to answer charges of

murder met against them. The police said Mrs. Harrison had confessed that she shot and killed W. R. Warren, a hotel proprietor, and claimed that he had wronged her before her marriage. Warren's body was found riddled with bullets at the side of a country road near here Dec. 22, 1915.

BLACK HAND LETTERS

Cleveland, Feb. 28.—Detectives were assigned to guard Prosecuting Attorney Cyrus Locher following the receipt of threatening Black Hand letters by that official in the case of Louis Bianchetti, Italian chef, on trial for the murder of Dolores Evans, actress.

CRUSHED IN ACCIDENT

Milwaukee, Feb. 28.—An auto driven by Dr. E. L. Eisen, a well known dentist, was struck by a streetcar. The dead: Dr. Eisen and Hans Strieder, aged eighteen. Injured: Elizabeth Eisen, eight, skull fractured; Edward Eisen, six, skull fractured; Mrs. Eisen, concussion of brain.

HARD TO GET INSURANCE

Toledo, Feb. 28.—Saloonkeepers of Toledo are to have their own life insurance risks. The new venture will apply to those saloonists who are patrons of a local brewery. Saloonkeepers have found it hard to get insurance companies to take a risk on their lives.

TRAINMEN CRUSHED

Palmsville, O., Feb. 28.—Three trainmen were seriously injured when in a rear-end freight collision on the New York Central railroad two miles west of this city. They are Forest Hathaway, fireman, Cleveland; C. J. Swetland, conductor, Buffalo; W. H. Newcomb, engineer, Buffalo.

UPHOLDS THE MAYOR

Portsmouth, O., Feb. 28.—Mayor H. H. Kaps received a letter from the state board of health approving his action in the case of Mrs. Clara G. Foster, wealthy widow, who went to jail rather than pay a \$100 fine imposed for failing to make a sanitary sewer tap connection when ordered. Since her release from jail, Mrs. Foster has received more than 200 letters from various sections of the United States congratulating her upon her stand for what she considered to be right.

OFFICIAL SUSPENDED

Toledo, Feb. 28.—Richard F. McKey, superintendent of the police bureau of identification, well known in police circles throughout the country as an advocate of the Bertillon system of identification, was suspended by Chief of Police Henry Herbert at the direction of Safety Director John Newton. McKey is charged with conduct unbecoming an officer. It is alleged he was the author of letters to criminals.

Anti-Saloon League Meeting.
Columbus, Feb. 28.—The executive committee of the Ohio Anti-Saloon League began a two days' session here today. While a number of formal matters will come before it, the chief function will be to determine whether prohibition is to be submitted to Ohio voters in the fall.

FIVE SEPARATE ATTACKS FAIL

French Make Desperate Effort to
Retake Fort Douaumont.

BATTLE AT VERDUN CONTINUES

Berlin Announces the Capture of
Champagneville and the Cote de
Talon—Attack Begun On Verdun
From the East as Well as the
North—Review of Operations, On
Other Battle Fronts.

London, Feb. 28.—The German assault on Verdun slackened somewhat in intensity over most of the line, which now lies directly under the guns of the forts. Narrowing their most desperate attacks to the short front between the Douaumont heights and the plateau north of the village of Vaux, to the east, the Germans here concentrated their efforts in a strong attack. Fort Douaumont is still occupied by small German forces. The French are closing in on this position on three sides and announce that the German force is maintaining itself in the position only with difficulty.

The very unfavorable weather conditions, with a heavy fall of snow, may be one reason for the lessening of the force of the German attack; the dispatches from the front indicate that heavy losses may have had an effect.

Five separate attacks have been made by the French on Fort Douaumont in an effort to retake the position, the German war office says. Each attack was made by fresh troops, but all five were repulsed with heavy losses to the French forces. The number of unwounded French prisoners taken in the seven days of the battle, the Berlin statement says, has reached 15,000.

French Withdrew.
Finding the position untenable because of the fire of both artilleries, the French have evacuated the Cote de Talon, to the west of Douaumont and the position is now unoccupied, the French say, by either side.

In the official statement received from Berlin, the German war office announces that the Germans pressing ahead to the west of Douaumont have reached Nave, on the southern border of the wooded district northeast of Bras, taking Champagneville and the Cote de Talon on the way. To the east of Douaumont the Germans announce the storming of extended fortified works at Haraumont.

The Germans have begun an attack also on Verdun from the east, as well as from the north, throwing sufficient forces against the French line in the region of Moranville and Blance, on the Woivre plain, to force the French advanced posts to fall back. The Germans followed up the attack in an effort to reach Hill 255. These attempts were checked.

There has been considerable activity along the Russian front around Riga, Friedrichstadt and Iloukatz.

In the Caucasus region, despite the heavy snow, which at places is breast deep, the Russians are continuing vigorously their pursuit of the Turks.

HIT WITHOUT WARNING

Captain of British Steamer Tells How
His Boat Was Torpedoed.

London, Feb. 28.—Captain Gargill of the Liverpool steamship *Belle of France*, who recently returned home, describes how the ship was torpedoed without warning off Alexandria. He says twenty-four members of the crew swam to the undersea craft's deck. The German crew, however, according to Captain Gargill, went below and closed the conning tower hatches, leaving Captain Gargill's men outside. All but five of the latter perished and the remainder were picked up by boats from the *Belle of France*.

Roumania to Remain Neutral.

London, Feb. 28.—The chances of Roumania engaging in the European war on either side exist no longer, according to leaders of the responsible Roumanian parties. Roumania will remain neutral, and, according to statements made and to recent developments, will observe a neutrality which will give neither side just cause to employ military measures against her.

Seizure of Ships Justified.
London, Feb. 28.—Seizure by Portugal of German vessels interned in the ports of that country was dictated by the necessities of the economic situation, and in order to avoid acts of sabotage, for which it was known preparations had been made, according to a statement in the Portuguese chamber of deputies by the premier.

WON'T CHANGE ITS PROGRAM

Germany Will Torpedo Armed
Vessels After Feb. 29

Unarmed Merchant Vessels Will
Not Be Molested.

REPLY REACHES WASHINGTON

Submarine Campaign Against Armed
Merchantmen Will Begin the First
of March, as Scheduled—Discussion
Likely of Question of Distinction
Between Ships Armed For Defense
and Those Armed For Offense.

Washington, Feb. 28.—Count Von Bernstorff received from his government an outline of Germany's position regarding her announced intention of torpedoing all armed enemy ships without warning after Feb. 29. This outline will be presented to Secretary of State Lansing without delay.

As hitherto forecasted, the memorandum received may open the way for a discussion of the whole question of the distinction between merchant ships armed for defense and those armed for offense, but contrary to expectations of the state department and the embassy, the communication does not further discuss the operation of the new submarine campaign pending this discussion. The campaign will begin as scheduled on March 1.

In the memorandum just received at the German embassy the Berlin foreign office directs Ambassador Bernstorff to inform the American government that Germany is prepared to stand by her past assurances and does not regard her coming campaign against armed enemy craft as nullifying these assurances.

The attention of the American government is called to Germany's understanding that the Lusitania controversy in no way dealt with armed liners; that the first American note on the Lusitania case, dated May 13, 1915, specifically referred to the ship as being "unarmed."

To Submit Evidence.

In support of the German contention that the character of armament on merchant vessels does not insure its use merely for defense, Ambassador Bernstorff is directed to lay before Secretary Lansing two sets of evidence. The first includes alleged circumstances in about twenty-five cases investigated by the German authorities showing where enemy merchantmen have used their armament to attack German submarines and other German war craft on sight or after warning had been given the merchantmen to haul to and submit to visit and search.

The second batch of evidence which the ambassador is directed to lay before Mr. Lansing contains the copy of the British secret orders and supplementary instructions alleged by Germany to have been issued recently to all armed British merchantmen to use their defensive armament offensively against German and Austrian submarines.

Although the instructions show that Germany is unalterably opposed to any restrictions of her new submarine campaign, it is understood they are sufficiently broad to enable Ambassador Bernstorff to suggest to Mr. Lansing that Germany might modify her new campaign if the entente powers would give solemn guarantees to the United States that the defensive armament on their ships would never be used offensively. Meantime Count Von Bernstorff is directed, it is said, to urge upon the United States the advisability of warning Americans to keep off armed merchantmen of the belligerent countries.

ATTACKED BY FOOTPADS

Cincinnati, Feb. 28.—Rev. Thomas C. Carter, D. D., of Chattanooga, Tenn., bishop in the United Brethren church, died here. While walking along the street one night shortly after his arrival here eight days ago, he was attacked by highwaymen, knocked down and robbed and, according to physicians, died from erysipelas, caused from bruises sustained at that time.